

FLORENCE BELL

CHESTER SOUCEK

GEORGE L. HOSSFELD

BELVA KIBLER

## UNDERWOOD EXPERT TYPING TEST February, 1930

¶ To qualify for Underwood Awards this test must be written without practice and submitted during the current month.

It is often a matter of wonderment to me whether or not we young people have any just conception of the value of the things scattered about us on every hand. A little while ago I was walking on Broadway and passed a shoe shop in the window of which I saw a pair of shoes. They seemed to be nice shoes although not just what I, myself, would be apt to buy. I am no real expert when it comes to such matters but the price tag, thirteen dollars and a half, aided me in forming an opinion of their worthiness. At any rate, it seems to me that a fairly good pair of shoes ought to be had for that amount of money.

And then my mind went back to something I was reading only yesterday. It was a pencilled list of the things my great-great-grandmother brought as her share of the partnership on the day she was married. Pots, pans, kettles, sheets, and in fact, the complete outfit was given, and against each was set the price at which it was valued, or that had been paid for it, and the items were correctly added at the bottom of the list, the sum being exactly thirteen dollars and a half, the price that was tagged on the pair of shoes I have spoken about. Funny, isn't it? I do not believe that young people like you and me pay

Strokes

52  
110  
168  
222  
279  
337  
393  
451  
510  
571  
614  
665  
724  
779  
836  
898  
956  
1012  
1067  
1125  
1183  
1238

as much attention to such things as we should. The price we pay for a wrap or a suit of clothes would have bought a farm for my ancestors, and have left enough for a cow or two and a few chickens.

But there is another queer turn in the story. In the list I have named above was a foot-warmer, a little tin box in which glowing charcoal was carried to church to warm the toes of the pious worshippers. I think it was valued at something like a half-dollar, but if I had it now I could sell it, battered and worn, for as many dollars as it originally cost cents. And after a while the pair I referred to got together cash enough to send to England and purchase the works of a clock, and after they came to hand a cabinet maker fashioned a case for them, one of those tall, six-foot cases they had in those days, and all at a cost of not more than ten dollars. That same clock now stands in my hall and if I chose I could sell it for a few hundred dollars to Henry Ford, maybe.

And again I wonder if we get any more fun going to a fashionable shop and buying the things which they had to make for themselves. I am rather inclined to think we do not. If we want a pen we buy a self-filler at an unreasonable price, and spill the ink all over our white vests or flannel skirts. They did not do that. They sent the oldest boy out into the barnyard to catch a goose and hold it up for one of its quills, then with a knife (that's where you get the term pen knife) they whittled the point of that feather and proceeded to write with it, and sprinkled sand on the writing so that it would not blot.

And I have the plate my respected far-off grandmother used to eat from. Crockery of all kinds was costly in those days, or so they believed, and naturally, they turned their inventive faculties toward some substitute. In this case the material was wood, and the plate I speak of was turned from a block of wood until it was as thin as a piece of china. I would like to see our wood workers try to dupli-

cate it. Finally it got broken clear across the center, but it was worth too much to throw away, and so the edges were fastened together with pieces of wire and dinner was served as usual.

The husband was a cabinet maker, and a good one, and he carried the trade so far as to build his own house, getting the money for the material from the wage of a dollar and a half a day he received when working for other people, although much of the lumber he hewed from trees which grew on his own little farm. And when the house was finished he made the furniture for it, and I think the old lady's eyes would open wide if I could tell her that the table he fashioned for her out of fine mahogany now stands in my room and dealers would pay for it as much as her house cost originally.

Now and then I hear some old codger refer to the "good old days" but to young people like ourselves it always brings up a big question mark—were they so good, and still again are ours any better? They lived long. I have seen the stone marking their burial place and the man, at least, was over a hundred years old when he passed on to his deserved rest. They saw their descendants down to the fourth generation, come and go. They fought out the battle of life just as we have to do, and I believe came out victors. They were rigid Puritans and "eschewed the Devil and all his works," or thought they did, which was just as well. They laid the foundation upon which we have builded, and without that foundation we could have accomplished little. They lived and they died, and have become only a memory or a tradition, a small atom in the life of the years that have become known as "the good old days." The best we can do is to imitate their virtues and live close to the standard of probity and honor that they set up.

*(Start from the beginning if completed in less than fifteen minutes)*

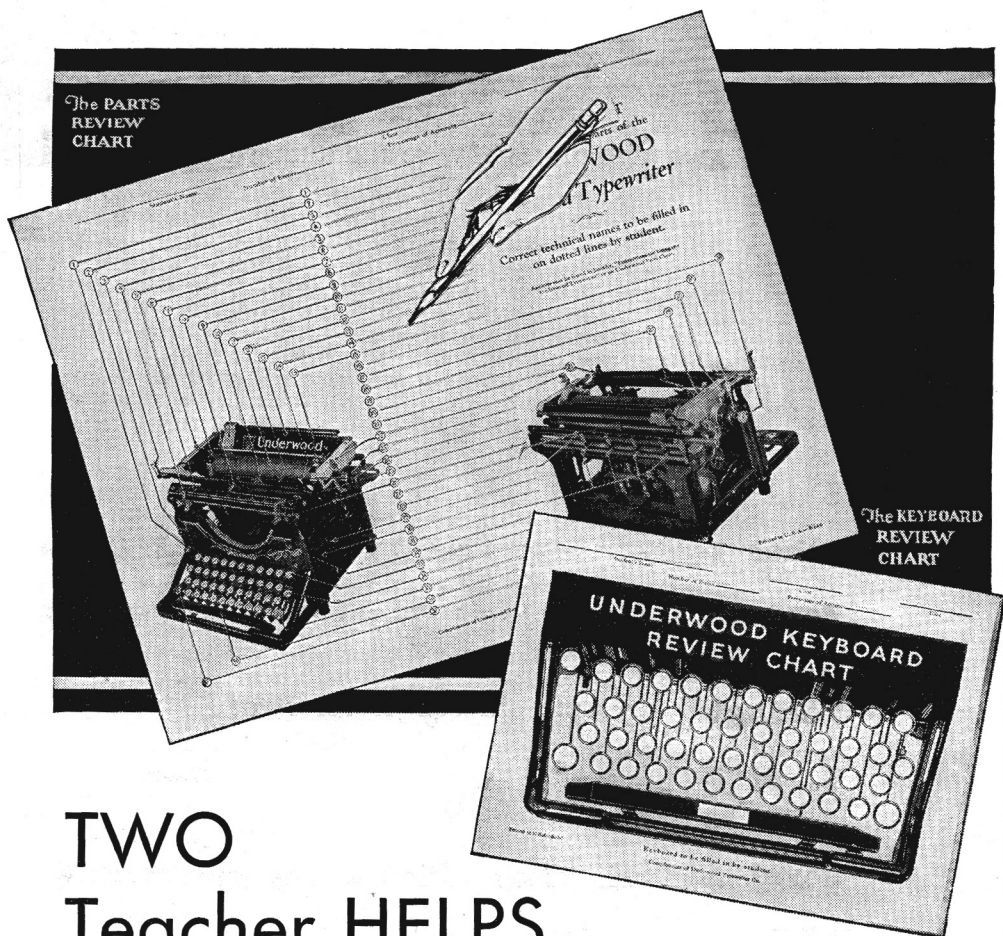
"The Good Old Days," by J. N. Kimball.

Strokes

3309  
3363  
3421  
3439  
3492  
3551  
3609  
3661  
3717  
3772  
3831  
3888  
3944  
3999  
4030  
4079  
4136  
4191  
4249  
4304  
4356  
4416  
4473  
4533  
4591  
4648  
4703  
4757  
4814  
4869  
4925  
4981  
5041  
5058

SCALE FOR COUNTING TYPEWRITING STROKES

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |
| 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 |
| 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 | 50 | 51 | 52 |
| 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 |
| 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 |
| 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 |
| 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 |
| 69 | 70 | 71 | 72 |
| 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 |



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